Conversion of posts in State Bank of Indore

34. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Head Clerks converted to Special Assistants in the Delhi Branches of the State Bank of Indore during 1994-95 (Branch-wise);

(b) whether it is a fact that the conversion of existing posts of Head Clerks to Special Assistants were not communicated to the Head Clerks in time by some Branch Managers to exercise their option;

(c) if so, the names of such branches and the persons for their with-holding the communication from the Head-Clerks; and

(d) what action has been taken by the Bank Management for dereliction of duty and the manner in which the interest of the affected Head-Clerks are proposed to be protected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI-PROSAD PAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of consumer goods

35. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the controversy which is going on at present in the country regarding allowing import of consumer goods and the entry of multinationals in this sector and also Finance Minister's views on this subject as appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the 7th September, 1995;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government on the lines of China where one third of the economy is now open?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI-PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The reaction of the government is that the controversy over the issue of imports of consumer goods and the entry of multinationals in the sector is unnecessary and there should be a national concensus on the issue. Liberalisation of controls over domestic investors alongwith radical restructuring of policy towards foreign investment, trade and other related areas as announced from time to time have helped to increase the openness of the Indian Economy.

India's position amongst loan taking countries

36. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the position of India amongst the countries taking loan from the World Bank or International Development Association;

(b) the amount of loan taken by India from the World Bank and International Development Association as on date; and

(c) the loan taken for the projects being executed by the aforesaid Institutions in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI-PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) According to the Annual Report 1995, published by the World Bank, India is the largest borrower from the World Bank including IDA with a total loan/credit of US $ 38 billion.

(c) The total amount of loan/credit taken for the projects currently being executed in the country with the World Bank assistance, including IDA is US $ 14.2 billion net of cancellations.

Textile Mills managed by NTC in Punjab

37. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills in Punjab managed by the National Textile Corporation;

(b) the financial performance of these mills as on 31st December, 1995;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to provide special assistance to the sick mills; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) There are 4 nationalised textile mills in Punjab under the NTC(DP&R) Ltd. These 4 textile mills had a total net accumulated loss of Rs. 67.99 crores as on 31.12.1995.

(c) and (d) Government have formulated a revised Turn Around Strategy for modernisation of the mills under NTC including those in Punjab. The revised Turn Around Plan has been placed before the BIFR for its approval before implementation. Pending approval of the revised Turn Around Strategy, Government have been providing funds to NTC for payment of wages, salaries and bonus.

Less credit to small units

38. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that small units have been given less credit in 1995-96 than targetted by banks and financial institution;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken by Government to ensure adequate bank credit for small units; and

(c) the details of steps proposed to ensure adequate credit for small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI-PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the total credit outstanding to the small scale industrial (SSI) sector from scheduled commercial banks as on the last Friday of September 1995 was Rs. 26,299 crores which constituted 15.8% of the net bank credit outstanding as against Rs. 25,483 crores outstanding as at the end of March 1995 constituting 15.3% of the net bank credit. In addition, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)'s assistance to units in the SSI sector under its various schemes has shown an increase of 25% and 42% in sanctions and disbursements respectively in the first nine months of the current financial year as compared to corresponding period in the previous year.

RBI has been regularly monitoring the flow of credit to SSI sector and has simplified procedures for providing credit to SSI units. Specialised SSI branches have also been operationalised exclusively for the benefit of SSI sector.

Availability of power in Gujarat

39. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated annual production and demand of power in Gujarat during 1994-95 to 1998-99; and

(b) what is the estimated increase in the shortage of power supply in that State during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) The demand, availability and percentage shortage of power in Gujarat for the period 1994-95 to 1998-99 is as per details given below: